SIWI Annual Report 2025

A year of transition and renewal

2025 marked a year of transition and renewal for SIWI. As climate pressures, water insecurity and geopolitical uncertainty increasingly shape societies and economies, the need for stronger water governance has become harder to ignore.

During the year, SIWI welcomed a new Board and I joined the organization as Executive Director, continuing a broader process of organizational renewal. This culminated in the adoption of a new strategy that will guide SIWI's next chapter. The strategy builds on SIWI's role as a trusted convenor and knowledge partner while sharpening our focus on how water connects climate resilience, ecosystems, governance and equitable development.

Throughout 2025, SIWI worked with partners around the world to strengthen water cooperation, support informed decision-making, and connect global policy discussions with practical water realities on the ground. The year also reinforced a broader shift already underway: water is no longer seen only as an environmental or sectoral issue. It is increasingly shaping resilience, stability and development across societies.

As SIWI begins this next chapter, I hope this report provides a clear picture of both what we achieved in 2025 and the direction we are now taking to strengthen water governance and resilience in the years ahead.

HELENA THYBELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SIWI



WHO WE ARE

SIWI is an independent, non-profit organization based in Stockholm and working globally to strengthen water governance, cooperation, and resilience.

Throughout 2025, SIWI worked across policy, research, convening, and capacity development — connecting water with climate resilience, ecosystems, diplomacy, and sustainable development. The organization continued to bring together governments, researchers, practitioners, civil society, and the private sector to support dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and practical solutions across regions and sectors.

2025 also marked the completion of SIWI's organizational transition and the adoption of a new strategy that will guide the organization's future direction.

SIWI

BY THE NUMBERS

38
EMPLOYEES

90+
ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGED THROUGH THE WATER FOR CLIMATE PAVILION AT COP30

35
YEARS OF WORLD WATER WEEK IN 2025

DECEMBER 2025
WE ADOPTED OUR NEW STRATEGY

MULTIPLE GLOBAL REGIONS
WITH PARTNERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

2025 IN REVIEW

Across 2025, SIWI worked with partners around the world to strengthen water governance, support climate resilience, and advance cooperation across sectors and borders. From local landscape restoration to international climate negotiations, the year reflected growing recognition that water shapes resilience, development and stability far beyond the water sector itself.

Water governance and resilience

During 2025, SIWI helped strengthen water governance across the board by:

- Contributing to Sweden's national climate and vulnerability analysis.
- Supporting Swedish participation in international water policy through Swedish Water House.
- Recommendations to the EU Water Resilience Initiative, emphasizing inclusive water governance, nature-based solutions and stronger water diplomacy.
- Horizon Europe research, including the completion of the InnWater project on governance, social innovation and financing for sustainable water systems.

Cooperation across borders

As climate pressures increasingly affect shared water systems, SIWI continued to strengthen international cooperation through:

- Water diplomacy dialogues at the Baghdad International Water Conference and the OSCE Climate, Water and Security Forum.
- UNESCO IHP's Special Award, received together with the International Centre for Water Cooperation for long-term contributions to water diplomacy.
- The launch of The Routledge Handbook of Water Diplomacy, co-edited by SIWI with leading international experts.
- Continued support for dialogue in regions where water connects climate resilience, security and sustainable development.

Landscapes, ecosystems and green water resilience

Throughout 2025, SIWI advanced nature-based approaches to water resilience through:

- The LoCoFoRest programme, supporting locally led forest and landscape restoration across Africa and Asia.
- Application of the Water-smart Forest and Landscape Restoration tool in Madagascar.
- Contributions to UNESCO's Green Water Dialogue.
- New research published in Ambio highlighting the importance of green water in strengthening climate resilience.

World Water Week 2025

Celebrating its 35th anniversary, World Water Week 2025 brought together the global water community under the theme Water for Climate Action. Highlights included:

- More than 13,000 participants from 188 countries and territories, attending on site and online.
- More than 500 convening organizations co-created the programme, strengthening knowledge exchange and cross-sector collaboration.
- A dedicated focus on Indigenous Peoples, including the first High-Level Panel led by Indigenous Peoples and the publication of a statement to the global water community.
- The Week was recognized by the United Nations as a key global milestone on the road to the 2026 UN Water Conference, reinforcing its role in connecting global water processes.

Water in global climate policy

Throughout 2025, SIWI helped strengthen the role of water in international climate discussions through:

- Participation in Panama Climate Week, the UN climate negotiations in Bonn and London Climate Action Week.
- Coordination of the Water for Climate Pavilion at COP30 together with more than 90 partner organizations.
- Contributions to dialogue on water resilience, adaptation and integrated climate planning.
- Progress towards stronger recognition of water in global climate policy, including water-related indicators under the Global Goal on Adaptation.

Read the interactive Annual Report to explore these activities, partnerships and outcomes in more detail.






FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS

SIWI's work during 2025 was supported through partnerships with governments, foundations, multilateral organizations, and strategic collaborators across sectors and regions.

Key partners during the year included UNESCO, the Government of the Netherlands, Sida, UNICEF, the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, Arup, Grundfos Foundation and the Walton Family Foundation.

REVENUE AND FUNDING

SIWI's work during 2025 was supported through a combination of grants, partnerships, and operational income linked to programmes, events, and advisory activities. Together, these resources supported SIWI's work across water governance, climate resilience, cooperation, and knowledge sharing.

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE 2025

67.9 SEK Million

GRANTS

33.9 SEK Million

OPERATIONAL INCOME

33.7 SEK Million

OTHER OPERATING INCOME

0.3 SEK Million

FINANCIAL RESILIENCE

2025 marked a period of organizational consolidation following the changes initiated in 2024. During the year, SIWI maintained a positive financial result and a stable financial position while continuing delivery across key areas of work.



ORGANIZATION'S ASSETS FINANCED THROUGH ITS OWN CAPITAL

NET RESULT FOR 2025

0.9 SEK Million

EQUITY

20.8 SEK Million

CASH & BANK BALANCE, YR END

25.3 SEK Million

SIMPLIFIED INCOME STATEMENT

SEK Million	2025	2024
Operating Income		
Grants	33,9	78,5
Net turnover	34,0	41,6
Total Operating Income	**67,9**	**120,1**
Operating Expenses		
Other external Costs	-35,5	-52,8
Staff Costs	-31,5	-63,9
Total Operating Expenses	**-67**	**-116,7**
Result	**0,9**	**3,4**

SIWI

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